

1. (Amended) A hand held vacuum cleaner for filtering particles of dust and debris from an airflow passing through the vacuum cleaner, comprising;

a coarse pre-filter;

A1 a fine primary filter which is located downstream of the pre-filter in the direction of flow of the airflow; and

wherein the pre-filter has a recess for receipt of the primary filter.

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~~11. 27.~~ (Amended) A hand held vacuum cleaner system comprising:

a housing;

an electric motor disposed within said housing;

a fan driven by said electric motor for generating a suction airflow of air-entrained dirt and debris;

a dual filter system including:

A2 a pre-filter for filtering coarse particles of dirt and debris from the dirt and debris entrained air;

a primary filter for filtering fine particles of dirt and debris from the entrained air;

said pre-filter forming an open ended box shape and said primary filter being adapted to rest nestably within said pre-filter;

said primary filter further comprising a concertina shaped filtering material; and

A2 said housing and at least one of said pre-filter and primary filter including cooperating latching structure for mechanically interengaging to releasably secure said pre-filter and said primary filter to said housing.

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Please add the following new claims:

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15. 44. (New) A hand held vacuum cleaner for filtering particles of dust and debris from an airflow passing through the vacuum cleaner, comprising;

a primary filter;

a pre-filter nestably housed adjacent to the primary filter; and

wherein, the primary filter is located downstream of the pre-filter in the direction of flow of the airflow.

A3 16. 45. (New) A hand held vacuum cleaner for filtering particles of dust and debris from an airflow passing through the vacuum cleaner, comprising;

a cup-shaped pre-filter; and

a concertina-shaped primary filter disposed adjacent to the pre-filter.

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Please cancel Claims 9, 12-26 and 31-43 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.